

Senate Resolution 14 - Introduced

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY CHELGREN

1 A Resolution urging the Congress of the United States
2 to enact legislation allocating transportation
3 infrastructure funds as a block grant for states to
4 spend without being subject to burdensome federal
5 regulations.

6 WHEREAS, the objective of the federal highway
7 program has been to facilitate the construction
8 of a modern freeway system that promotes efficient
9 interstate commerce by connecting all the states; and
10 WHEREAS, that objective has been attained, and the
11 interstate system connecting all the states is near
12 completion; and

13 WHEREAS, each state has the responsibility of
14 providing an efficient transportation network for the
15 residents of that state; and

16 WHEREAS, each state is the most capable of
17 determining the transportation infrastructure needs of
18 that state and acting on those needs; and

19 WHEREAS, the federal role in highway transportation
20 has, over time, usurped the role of the states
21 by taxing motor fuels used in the states and then
22 distributing the proceeds to the states based on the
23 federal government's perception of what is best for the
24 states; and

25 WHEREAS, the federal distribution, review, and
26 enforcement process wastes billions of dollars on
27 unproductive activities; and

28 WHEREAS, federal mandates that apply uniformly to

1 all 50 states regardless of each state's particular
2 circumstances cause the states to waste billions
3 of hard-earned tax dollars on projects, programs,
4 and activities that the states would not otherwise
5 undertake; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has expressed
7 a strong interest in reducing the role of the federal
8 government by allowing each state to manage its own
9 affairs; NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate urges
11 the United States Congress to return to the individual
12 states maximum discretionary authority and fiscal
13 responsibility for all elements of the national surface
14 transportation systems that are not within the direct
15 purview of the federal government; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate urges the
17 United States Congress to facilitate this return of
18 discretionary authority and fiscal responsibility
19 by enacting legislation allocating transportation
20 infrastructure funds as a block grant for states to
21 spend without being subject to burdensome federal
22 regulations; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
24 Resolution shall be sent to the President and Secretary
25 of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of
26 the United States House of Representatives, and to the
27 members of Iowa's congressional delegation.